

**To:** Cheung, Wendy[Cheung.Wendy@epa.gov]  
**From:** Portillos, Christine  
**Sent:** Mon 8/10/2015 11:01:52 PM  
**Subject:** RE: International Travel

Please finalize your TA and ensure if your ITP needs to change please do that and let me know when all is resolved. Keep in mind all needs to be to OITA 21 calendar days of departure.

Thank you

Christine Portillos

U.S. EPA, R8, TMS

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[portillos.christine@epa.gov](mailto:portillos.christine@epa.gov)

**From:** Cheung, Wendy  
**Sent:** Monday, August 10, 2015 4:19 PM  
**To:** Portillos, Christine  
**Subject:** RE: International Travel

Unfortunately I asked the travel agent to cost it out a different flight and to send me the price so that I could show it to Carol Russell... it shouldn't have taken effect and it certainly shouldn't be more, the new flight is 1K LESS.

There's been a flurry of email today about trying to flexible and getting a less expensive flight.

Sorry to add this to your plate, I'm sure you're working 24/7 on the Gold King Mine...

**From:** Portillos, Christine  
**Sent:** Monday, August 10, 2015 3:24 PM  
**To:** Cheung, Wendy  
**Subject:** RE: International Travel

Did you change you TA and it looks like costs have increased....?

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**From:** Cheung, Wendy  
**Sent:** Monday, August 10, 2015 6:59 AM  
**To:** Portillos, Christine  
**Subject:** RE: International Travel

Thanks Christine, Let's continue to move forward!

**From:** Portillos, Christine  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 09, 2015 8:55 PM  
**To:** Cheung, Wendy  
**Subject:** RE: International Travel

In most cases you can justify costs exceeding what is allowed and because Deb Thomas will authorize the costs it should be fine. You need to be very descriptive and explain that Deb Thomas the DRA will review the TA. Along with that you second line supervisor will should also sign the TA.

Thank you

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**From:** Cheung, Wendy  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 09, 2015 8:48 PM  
**To:** Portillos, Christine  
**Subject:** RE: International Travel

Sorry I didn't catch you earlier and this is getting so convoluted... Word is that the higher fare

can be justified, but not sure. I'll find out tomorrow - hopefully bright and early before Deb gets to it and will let you know what I find out.

**From:** Portillos, Christine  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 09, 2015 8:45 PM  
**To:** Cheung, Wendy  
**Subject:** RE: International Travel

Well I've already reviewed your ITP so if the flights are going to change you need to change the flights in there also. With that said I also informed our DRA Deb Thomas that she needed to approve your ITP. Do you want me to ask her to hold off and not approve the ITP?

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**From:** Cheung, Wendy  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 09, 2015 8:42 PM  
**To:** Portillos, Christine  
**Subject:** RE: International Travel

I do have the return date as 9/19/15.

There are a couple of places that may be the issue:

- 1) no lodging associated with M&IE on 9/18. I added back the lodging for 9/18 and will not request reimbursed for this.
- 2) with the time change, I don't get into Vietnam till 9/12. I had lodging for 9/11 and I just deleted that lodging entry.

Also, I just got an email that there may be a dollar cap to this trip. If so I may have to change my flight to one with more stopovers. Carol Russell will have to do the same. I will verify about the dollar cap tomorrow AM with OITA. In the meantime please hold off on approval, hate for you to approve and then have to reapprove.

Thank you so much for your efforts to take care of this (on a Sunday eve no less!) Wendy

**From:** Portillos, Christine  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 09, 2015 7:47 PM  
**To:** Cheung, Wendy  
**Subject:** RE: International Travel

Well I'm not sure but can you please go into your expenses and ensure you have your return date as being 9/19/2015 and for that day you did not click actuals? I'm thinking you may have clicked actuals for that particular day. I'm not sure.....I will look tomorrow when I land I am going to the emergency response in Durango tomorrow morning.

When I land and set up I will review again.

Thank you

Christine Portillos

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**From:** Cheung, Wendy  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 09, 2015 7:31 PM  
**To:** Portillos, Christine  
**Subject:** RE: International Travel

Christine,

I wonder if it is flagging a problem because I am not using lodging on the last day (9/18) because I am effectively lodging on the plane. So on 9/18 for the full day I will on travel and on 9/19 it is not a full day. I added back the lodging and hopefully that will resolve that issue. Then, when I return I won't get reimbursed for it. Does that work?

Thanks, Wendy

**From:** Portillos, Christine  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 09, 2015 2:11 PM  
**To:** Cheung, Wendy  
**Subject:** International Travel

Hi Wendy,

Below is an overview of requirements for your International Travel. Prior to me signing off on your TA in Concur please go in and amend the TA and correct the last day of M&IE it seems like you're receiving above the allowed amount.

You will do the International Travel Plan (ITP) in Lotus Notes (you will select me Christine Portillos to review it once it's completed) the ITP must be completed 21 calendar days prior to departure to include all approvals must be done by approving officials in R8. You will also have to do the TA in Concur your travel preparer can assist with that if needed. The TA is the same as a regular TA just ensure you add in the comments that it's International Travel. Also, in the travel type you would select Foreign Travel this will ensure the routing is correct.

Depending on who's paying for this trip if the per diem is over 150% you must annotate that in the comments and have the second line supervisor authorize the TA. If you do not have the second line supervisor authorize the TA then you will have to attach a memo with the second line supervisor signature authorizing the 150% over the per diem.

I've provided the link for International Travel information you can access the link for additional information. See below.

Please let me know if you have additional questions.

<http://intranet.epa.gov/oiaintra/>

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